availability of coal from the domestic sources was indicated as 363 Million Tonne leaving a shortfall of 41 Million Tonne. In order to bridge this gap, Power Utilities were advised to import 28.7 Million Tonne coal (equivalent to 41 Million Tonne of domestic coal in view of higher calorific value) which 7.1% of the total coal requirement for 2009-10. Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam (RVUN) has been advised to import 0.8 Million Tonne coal which is about 5.8% of their annual coal requirement for its existing units of Kota and Suratgarh.

Gas to NTPC from RIL

3520. SHRI D. RAJA:
SHRI R.C. SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether NTPC has petitioned the Supreme Court to secure gas at the contracted price from Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL); and

(b) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) NTPC had invited bids under International Competitive Bidding for procurement of natural gas @ 132 Trillion British Thermal Unit (TBtu) per annum for Kawas-II and Gandhar-II Expansion projects for a period of 17 years. M/s Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) was evaluated the lowest techno-cornmercially acceptable bidder and was issued a Letter of Intent (LOI) on 16.06.2004. However, RIL did not sign the Gas Sale Purchase Agreement (GSPA).

Accordingly, NTPC filed a suit in the High Court of Bombay in Dec'05 against Reliance (RIL) for specific performance of the said contract. Since December 2005 hearing of the case has been held on number of occasions. The affidavit of evidence has also been served in the court. The suit came up for hearing for recording of evidence on 10.02.2009.

In the meanwhile, RIL filed Chamber Summons for amendment to the Written Statement. NTPC challenged the Chamber Summons. However, in the hearing on 20th April' 09, the court passed order in favour of RIL. NTPC again appealed against the aforesaid Court order and on 30.07.2009, the court dismissed the Appeal of NTPC.

NTPC filed Special Leave Petition against the order dated 30.07.2009 of the Bombay High Court in the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The Special Leave Petition was dismissed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court by its order dated 01.10.2009 and allowed NTPC to file its replication to RIL allegations, if any, made in the additional written statement to be filed by RIL in the NTPC suit. The Hon'ble Supreme Court also ordered for expediting the NTPC's case in Bombay High Court.

Per unit cost of gas production

3521. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU:
SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state: